

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 158023
ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 /026 R

66011

DRAFTED BY: EUR/RPM:JLONG

APPROVED BY: EUR/RPM:WSHINN JR

-----096328 080632Z /23

R 072132Z JUL 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 158023

FOLLOWING REPEAT BELGRADE 4369 ACTION SECSTATE INFO NATO
STOCKHOLM MOSCOW BONN BRUSSELS PARIS ROME LONDON OSLO THE HAGUE
COPENHAGEN LUXEMBOURG ANKARA ATHENS OTTAWA LISBON
REYKJAVIK USCINCEUR CINCUSAREUR USNMR SHAPE DTD 29 JUN

QTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BELGRADE 4369

USCINCEUR FOR POLAD; CINCUSAREUR FOR POLAD; USNMR SHAPE FOR POLAD

DEPT PASS DOD FOR JCS
FOR EUR/RPM, EUR/SOV
FROM USDEL CSCE

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: CSCE
SUBJ: CSCE/CBM'S: NEW PROPOSALS

REF: (A) USNATO 5968, (B) USNATO 5949 (NOTAL)

1. WHILE USDEL CSCE HAS NOT UP TO NOW INVOLVED ITSELF IN
SUBSTANCE OF ALLIED CONSULTATIONS ON ISSUES TO BE RAISED
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DURING THE MAIN MEETING NEXT FALL, WE BELIEVE IT IS
INCREASINGLY DESIRABLE FOR THOSE CONSULTATIONS TO TAKE
INTO CONSIDERATION FACTORS WHICH ARE PECULIAR TO THE
NEGOTIATING SITUATION IN BELGRADE. FOR THIS REASON, WE
PLAN TO COMMENT FROM TIME TO TIME ON THE SUBSTANTIVE
DISCUSSIONS BEING CARRIED OUT AT NATO OR ELSEWHERE, IN
ORDER TO CONTRIBUTE THE KNOWLEDGE AND INSIGHTS WHICH WE

HAVE GAINED IN CONTACT WITH OTHER DELEGATIONS IN BELGRADE.

2. WE ARE PARTICULARLY CONCERNED AT THIS TIME WITH THE ALLIED APPROACH TO NEW PROPOSALS, ESPECIALLY IN THE CBM FIELD. WE HAVE BEEN IMPRESSED SINCE ARRIVING IN BELGRADE WITH THE STRENGTH OF THE DESIRE BY ALMOST ALL DELEGATIONS HERE TO AVOID CHANGING THE FINAL ACT. THIS IS A VIRTUALLY THEOLOGICAL RULE, AND ALTHOUGH THE AGENDA FOR THE MAIN MEETING WHICH IS EVENTUALLY ADOPTED BY THE PREPARATORY MEETING WILL PROBABLY VARY FROM THE FINAL ACT IN SOME DETAILS, THE GREAT MAJORITY OF DELEGATIONS HERE STRONGLY RESIST ANY SUBSTANTIVE CHANGES IN FINAL ACT FORMULATIONS, EVEN IN SOME CASES WHEN SUCH CHANGES COULD BE TO THEIR ADVANTAGE.

3. WE BELIEVE THAT, IF THE U.S. AND THE ALLIES ARE TO ENTER THE MAIN MEETING WITH NEW PROPOSALS WHICH WILL BE DEFENSIBLE AND HAVE SOME CHANCE OF SUCCESS, THIS KEY FACTOR MUST BE TAKEN CAREFULLY INTO ACCOUNT. IT APPLIES TO NEW PROPOSALS IN ALL BASKETS, BUT HAS PARTICULAR RELEVANCE FOR CBM PROPOSALS WHICH WOULD HAVE THE EFFECT OF ALTERING THE EXISTING CBM PARAMETERS--THOSE RELATING TO NOTIFICATION OF MILITARY MANEUVERS. NOWHERE IN THE FINAL ACT ARE PROVISIONS SO SPECIFIC, AND NOWHERE WOULD CHANGES BE MORE OBVIOUS.
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4. ANOTHER IMPORTANT FACTOR WHICH SHOULD BE BORNE IN MIND IS THE EXPECTED TIMEFRAME OF THE BELGRADE MEETING. IF WE EXPECT TO NEGOTIATE NEW PROPOSALS DURING THE THREE-MONTH PERIOD ANTICIPATED FOR THE MAIN MEETING, THESE PROPOSALS SHOULD BE SUFFICIENTLY ACCEPTABLE--OR SUFFICIENTLY GENERAL--TO PERMIT REASONABLY QUICK ADOPTION BY ALL CSCE PARTICIPANTS. HERE AGAIN, THIS IS PARTICULARLY TRUE IN THE MILITARY AREA, WHERE DETAILED COMMITMENTS REQUIRE METICULOUS COORDINATION AND CONSIDERATION BY GOVERNMENTS.

5. THE SWEDES HAVE CLEARLY TAKEN THESE FACTORS INTO ACCOUNT IN DEVELOPING THEIR DRAFT CBM RESOLUTION FOR THE MAIN MEETING (REF B). THIS PROPOSAL PROBABLY REPRESENTS ABOUT WHAT THE TRAFFIC WILL BEAR IN CSCE, AND WE SHOULD BEAR THIS IN MIND IN CONSIDERING WHETHER TO PUT FORWARD CBM PROPOSALS WHICH ARE SIGNIFICANTLY MORE AMBITIOUS THAN THE SWEDISH DRAFT.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, MILITARY CAPABILITIES, MISSILES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 07-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE158023
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: EUR/RPM:JLONG
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770242-0936
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770780/aaaacre.tel
Line Count: 114
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 1cf7146f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1930727
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CSCE/CBM'S: NEW PROPOSALS
TAGS: MARR, US, CSCE
To: USUN NEW YORK
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/1cf7146f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009